



PATENT
51270-277015

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
HIROMI OKITSU

Group No.: 2654

Examiner: Daniel A. Nolan

Serial No.: 09/982,404
Filed: October 18, 2001

For: APPARATUS FOR RESPONDING TO SOUND AT A
REMOTE TERMINAL

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on January 10, 2005.

By: Roger R. Wigg
Roger R. Wigg Reg. No. 31204

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated July 8, 2004 in connection with the above-identified application, the due date for response to which has been extended to January 10, 2005 (which is the first business day after Saturday, January 8, 2005) by the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time, the Applicant respectfully submits a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-referenced application along with a Preliminary Amendment. Please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks prior to examination of the above-identified application:

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It is believed that claims 3-5, 7, 9, 11, and 13-15, as amended herein, as well as new claims 20-33, are in condition for allowance, and a favorable action is respectfully requested. If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call one of the undersigned attorneys at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Date: January 10, 2005

By: 

Roger R. Wise
Registration No. 31,204
Attorney for Applicant(s)

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP
725 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2800
Los Angeles, CA 90017-5406
Telephone: (213) 488-7100
Facsimile: (213) 629-1033

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2. [X] The filing fee is calculated below for claims remaining after entry of the accompanying Preliminary Amendment:

	(Col. 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMEND.		(Col. 2) HIGHEST NO. PREV. PAID FOR	(Col. 3) PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY ADDTL RATE FEE	SMALL ENTITY ADDTL FEE DUE		LARGE ENTITY ADDTL RATE FEE	LARGE ENTITY ADDTL FEE DUE
TOTAL	9	Minus	20	0	X 9	\$	O R	X 18	\$
IND. CLAIMS	5	Minus	3	2	X 42	\$	O R	X 84	\$168
___ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS					+ 135	\$	O R	+ 270	\$
TOTAL						\$			\$908

- * If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.
 ** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.
 *** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box on Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

3. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 03-3975. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

4. [X] A check in the amount of \$ 908 is enclosed.

5. [X] Cancel in this application original claim(s) 1, 2, 6, 8, 10, and 12 of the prior application before calculating the filing fee. (At least one original independent claim must be retained for filing purposes.)

6. [X] Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

--This is a continuation of application serial No. 09/361,094 filed July 26, 1999 --

- 7a. [X] Amended drawings of Figs. 1 and 2 are enclosed.

- 7b. [X] Priority of application No.:

10-219309 filed August 3, 1998, in Japan is claimed under 35 USC §119.

- 7c. [X] The certified copy of the priority application was filed in prior application Serial No. 09/361,094, filed July 26, 1999.

8. [X] The prior application is assigned of record to: YAMAHA CORPORATION.